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# Saguaro National Park News Release

13-11

*For Immediate Release*

January 3, 2013

Contact: Paul Austin, 520 733 5111

## SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK AND SOUTHERN ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS TEAM UP AGAIN FOR 5 MILE RUN.

*As part of the BEYOND event on January 5, 2013*

Tucson, AZ— Saguaro National Park and Southern Arizona Roadrunners is teaming up for a **FREE, non-competitive 5K social walk/run** among the saguaros in the park's Tucson Mountain District (Saguaro West), from 8:30am to 10:30am, as part of the **BEYOND: \* Commemorate \* Celebrate \* Commit**, event on Saturday, January 5, 2013.

Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities are invited to this free event. The course will be along the Bajada Loop Drive in Saguaro National Park's Tucson Mountain District, (west) and will include rolling dirt roads and plenty of gorgeous National Park scenery. The start time is at 8:30 a.m. The run will not be timed, but participants must register. This event is limited to 400 participants, and registration details can be found at [www.azroadrunners.org](http://www.azroadrunners.org).

The events of January 8, 2011 shook the Tucson community to the core, affecting each of us deeply. But in the months after, members of Gabe Zimmerman's family and a diverse coalition of community partners came together to craft a positive response to the tragedy. **BEYOND: \* Commemorate \* Celebrate \* Commit** was created to get Tucsonans, especially young people, outside to promote physical and behavioral well-being. On this first anniversary, there will be opportunities to walk, hike, run, stroll, be artistic, learn new skills, and generally come together as a community across the Greater Tucson region.

"Saguaro National Park is honored to again be one of the many community partners taking part in **BEYOND: \* Commemorate \* Celebrate \* Commit**," said Superintendent Darla Sidles. "It is a wonderful way to bring us together, committing to a stronger community and being active within the beautiful surroundings around the Tucson area."

The start/finish area for the event will be located at the Kinney and Hohokam Road intersection. Participants should plan on parking on Kinney Road, northwest of the Red Hills Visitor Center. Traffic at the intersection of Sendario Road between Kinney and Golden Gate Roads will be restricted during the start of the race. Please expect up to a 30 minute delay in traffic until all runners have made the turn off of Sendario onto the Golden Gate Road. Once the runners have all passed the checkpoint, the road will reopen to regular traffic.

For more information about the 5 Mile Run, please contact Paul Austin at [Paul\\_Austin@nps.gov](mailto:Paul_Austin@nps.gov) or (520) 733-5111. To learn more about **BEYOND**, please go to [www.beyond-tucson.org](http://www.beyond-tucson.org).

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**WHO: Saguaro National Park and Southern Arizona Roadrunners.**

**WHAT: A 5 Mile Run Among the Saguaros, as part of the BEYOND event.**

**WHERE: Tucson Mountain District, 2700 N. Kinney Road, Tucson.**

**WHEN: January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.**

-NPS-

*About the National Park Service – More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 397 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).*

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